Application No.: 09/686,073 Amdt. Dated December 16, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed October 3, 2003, the Applicants elect Group I, as amended, with traverse.

Although the inventions of Groups I and II are distinct, the claims comprising Groups I and II differ only in scope and in form. Furthermore, the inventions of Groups I and II are related as they all are concerned with a networked sales method. Thus, the examiner has failed to sustain the burden required for restriction and the requirement for restriction is therefore improper.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 12/27/, 2003

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